



Welcome to the Central Coast Leagues Club Bridge Club



NEWSLETTER

February 2016

2016 MEMBERSHIP

2016 Membership

At January 31, 79% of members had paid their fees. This leaves 18 Home and 21 Associate members who will have to pay visitor table fees unless they renew.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY WORKSHOPS WITH WENDY

There will be 2 more workshops next month for *INTERMEDIATE* players.

Dates: March 9 – Talking with discards (count and McKenney)
March 16 – Competing with 2 suits (Michael's cue bids and Unusual 2NT)

Time: 10am to 12 o'clock

Cost: \$10 per player, including notes and hand records

Wendy Mitchel

RECORDER CORNER WITH GWEN

The cards should not be taken out of a board until all players are present. Before looking at the cards players should count their cards to check that there are thirteen. If any discrepancy then the director should be called immediately



**RECENT RESULTS**

Congratulations to all

JUMPING JANUARY – Best 3 out of 5

Ten pairs qualified by playing 3 or more out of the 5 sessions. Three of these played in all 5 sessions. A total of 30 different pair combinations participated. 19 of these played once only, and 1 played twice only.

Outright awards go to the top half of the field as follows:

		Masterpoints
1st	Colin & Wendy Mitchell	0.71
2nd	Gwen White & Jacqui Wilson	0.50
3rd	Shirley & Helen McLean	0.36
4th	Anne Grayden & Carol Judd	0.24
5th	Paul Unger & Jim Hancox	0.18

Wendy Mitchell

INTRA CLUB TEAMS – 11 February 2016

The latest Intra Club Teams was very successful with a final count of 19 teams. Although we had planned for 20, a Team had to pull out at the last minute but Ronnie Ng our Director quickly arranged a triangle at Rd 1.

The winners were:

1. Kevin and Angela Dougall / Chris Hannan and Diana Ellis
2. Marie Purkiss/ Toni Dixon and Patricia Kull / Elizabeth Lawrence
3. Hope Tomlinson / Barry Foster and John Duncan / Martin Johnson

This year we decided to implement an Encouragement Award for the last third of the field. This Special Prize was awarded to Patricia Austin / Pamela Townsend and Beverley Sivewright / Molly O'Neill, who chose to have a bottle of champagne each as their prize. Well done everyone.

Following a late correction (but which had been raised during the day) it was discovered that the Team of Dianne March / Leyla Moncelet and Pauline Caust / Alan Bustany should have won the prize so they were subsequently provided with 5 free game cards each.

Thank you Ronnie for organising and directing the day's play and a special thank you to Lyn Lynch and Rosanne Ransley for arranging the morning tea, lunch and after play drinks which were very well received by our members and visiting players.



**OTHER EVENTS**

Best local players

SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE CANBERRA**Jan 12 – 24**

There were many pairs and teams events with different categories ranging from Super Novice to Senior, and including Women's and Mixed. Local participation appeared to be down this year.

Three local pairs played in 3 different Seniors Teams. From our club, Jan Clarke and Di Coats came 27th out of 46. Jan and Di also played with Lorraine Lindsay and Gary Heyting in the SW Pacific Teams, coming 68th out of 136.

The Life Master Teams saw 2 local teams competing. Best were Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa, Barbara Grant and Louis Koolen – 6th out of 28. Sylvia and Jaan also played in the Open Swiss Pairs (96th out of 208) as did Ronnie Ng and Kaylee Lemon.

Kerry Murray and Martin Johnson competed in the 500 Swiss Pairs, coming 39th out of 84.

COMING EVENTS

KEY (C) CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP (E) ECLECTIC (G) GOLD POINT (P) PRE-ENTRY (Q) QUALIFYING SESSION (R) RED POINT

3 March	Thursday	Switching Singles 2 (E)
7 March	Monday	Monthly Shield 2 (E)
9 & 16 March	Wednesdays, 10:00 am	Intermediate Workshops
18 March	Friday, 9:30 am	Presentation Day Pairs (R, P)

CARDS RATINGS MOST IMPROVED REGULAR PLAYERS AT OUR CLUB

Congratulations to January improvers

WENDY ALFORD	1.17
ALLAN RAWARD	1.14
ANNE GRAYDEN	1.12
LYN LYNCH	1.11
MEI-HUA CRAWFORD	1.08
WENDY MITCHELL	1.03
NOLA DALY	1.01
SHIRLEY MCLEAN	0.94
MARGARET BERRIMAN	0.80

DOREEN COLLIS	0.76
TONY COLLIS	0.75
HELEN MCLEAN	0.69
MARIE PURKISS	0.69
GWEN WHITE	0.66
ROSANNE RANSLEY	0.60
JANICE ROUGHLEY	0.59
TRISH DENNIS	0.56
KERRY MURRAY	0.53





FROM THE CHIEF DIRECTOR

ALERT OR NOT ALERT? THAT IS THE QUESTION!

Players are often unsure whether to alert a bid or not, or they are too slow to do so, or they 'help' by explaining an alert before being asked. Here are some relevant extracts from the ABF Alerting Regulations. (For the full document go to <http://www.abf.com.au/about-abf/rules-regulations/>) (*The italicised and underling are mine – Colin M*)

7.4 Alerts are made by audibly saying, "Alert" and, if written bidding is in use, circling the call on the bidding pad. Circling a call provides prima-facie evidence that it has been alerted. (If bidding boxes are in use, an alert card should be placed across the relevant call.)

3.3.1 If a call is conventional, it must be alerted (unless it requires an announcement or is self-alerting).

7.6 Explanations of alerted calls or delayed alerted calls are given only after a request has been made.

8.1 When opponents make an alerted or self-alerted call, a player is entitled to ask specifically about that call at his first turn to call after the alert. Otherwise any questions should be directed at the whole auction, not a specific call; an appropriate method of asking would be "Please explain the auction".

Here are some common examples:

4.1 Stayman 2♣ in response to partner's 1NT

This bid is self-alerting because it is almost universally used. The conventional responses to Stayman are alertable, as are natural responses, which convey a message about strength or special distribution.

4.2 Transfers in response to partner's NT

The transfer bid is alertable. Acceptance of the transfer, whether or not after interference, is alertable if it conveys any meaning relating to hand strength or length in partner's shown suit.

4.3 Multi 2 bids (e.g. 2♦ showing an unspecified 6-card major with or without other options). Any 2-level bid with a multiple meaning is alertable. The conventional responses, including correctable bids are also alertable.

Colin Mitchell, Chief Director



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** in February to:

Margaret Berriman, David Bowerman, Jenny Clarke, Janice Crane, Cheryl Davison, Pam Gowthorp, Maureen Holmes, Julie Jessop, Elizabeth Lawrence, Lyn Lynch, Agnes Marsh, Kathy Mitchell, Wendy Mitchell, Leyla Moncelet, Claire O'Connor, Robyn Scahill, George Shina, Bev Sivewright, Adriana Smith, Jackie Wilson, Yvonne Zammit

MONDAY NIGHTERS RAGE

Happy Birthdays to two fabulous ladies

Celebrations on Monday Feb 10
evening for Agnes Marsh's big ?0,

and the Monday night before for
Ruth Griffin's ??

**NEW & OLD FRIENDS**

please welcome and add to your Program

Mae Erling	0412 857 858
Gary Goldsmith	0413 605 645 / 8840 9425
Henrietta Hohnen	4321 1015
John King	9476 1801
Lesley Wilson	0406 043 135
Welcome back - Maoliosa Hawkes	0402 413 712 / 4388 1920
Marea Mears	4325 3353
Pamela Wackwitz	0419 214 310



**COMMITTEE CAPERS****JANUARY 2016**

The time just seems to be flying this year and with the Gold Coast Congress looming it will go even faster. Good luck to all those members who are planning to play at Broadbeach.

I mention the Gold Coast Congress because it seems we shall no sooner be back (well only a couple of weeks anyway) when our Special Day of the year – our **Presentation Day** will take place on Friday 18th March 2016. Please make a note in your diary now.

It is an opportunity to congratulate those members who have won trophy events during the year and it is also the day that we invite all members to take part in a celebratory meal and enjoy a day of bridge and fun.

We were pleased Team entries increased (to 19) at our recent Intra Club Teams event. The Committee decided to introduce an Encouragement Award to the Team having the highest score out of the last 1/3 of the field ie final 7 teams. The Committee will continue this Award at future Intra Club Teams depending on the number of teams entered.

The Committee also discussed the training system for new Directors. We are always keen to welcome new recruits to the role of Directing. If you are interested please make it known to a Committee Member who will provide basic information.

The committee discussed the fluctuating temperatures in the playing area, which many players have found uncomfortable. I'm advised temperatures were particularly cold, while I was away in Tasmania, to the extent that a player became quite ill. This issue will be raised at the next Leagues Club Internal Club's meeting, which Leon and I will attend next Thursday night.

This years Charity Day will be held in May rather than June to make it easier for accounting within our Financial year. See the following article for further information.

Cheers Dorothy



**CHARITY DAY 2016****TUESDAY MAY 17**

The committee would like anyone interested in helping organize Charity Day to contact Dorothy. Two very important committee members (Lyn Lynch and Ruth Griffin) have dared to contemplate not being present for the big day, but we're working on them.

Any and all help from interested members, to organise the proceedings, will be greatly appreciated.

So far our Charity Day Sub-Committee comprises Dorothy Berzins, Julie Sadler, Anne Grayden, Patricia Kull, Elizabeth Lawrence, Gwen White, Trish Dennis and Helen White.

In the meantime we really would like **everyone to offer ideas** and to consider whether they feel they can ask if their favourite hairdresser/ beautician or local restaurant whether they would be prepared to offer a gift voucher. This can be a good way for them to promote their business.

We will also be asking members to donate items for our raffle and of course to start planning those wonderful jams and relishes, pate, rocky road and cakes that we so look forward to each year.

Cheers Dorothy

PEACE OF MIND (so much for those 'good ole' days)

Computer dealt hands began in 1970. Apparently, there was an immediate outcry about the deals. The complaints focussed on card distribution with claims of many more voids.

Subsequent research has shown that computer dealt hands fall within the frequencies expected mathematically and that the change, in distribution frequencies, came about because humans tended to deal from packs that had been inadequately shuffled.

For example, a trick containing 4 of a suit may remain intact through the shuffle. This results in each player receiving one of the suit from this part of the pack. The research shows this type of occurrence caused many more balanced hands than should be the case mathematically.

Paraphrased from *David Bird, 2011. Learn to play winning bridge*





(NON-BRIDGE) TOPICS FROM THE TABLE

A discussion at the bridge table, about nuisance phone calls (not auction bids surprisingly), and the concerns of some players about difficulties dealing with 'telemarketers', prompted this piece.

If you don't like calls from telemarketers you can, as some do, say "hold on please", put the phone down and walk away. When the phone starts beep-beep-beeping you know it's time to hang up. Not nice, but....

If you don't like the "hold on please" method, you can put yourself on the Australian Governments 'do not call register'. Visit the 'Do Not Call Register' website or call 1300 792 958.

Being on the register means telemarketers are not allowed to call you unless you are an existing customer or they are working for an exempt organization, which includes charities, market research, political parties and educational institutions. Better than nothing, but far from perfect.

The following may help when you get these calls.

- 1. Don't 'not answer' or hang up pre-conversation** – The telemarketer will mark you as 'no answer' and keep calling until contact is made.
- 2. Don't engage** (eg don't ask questions, don't explain why you're not interested, do not express empathy or other human responses). This will give the telemarketer false hope that you may need more convincing.
- 3. Don't get angry** - The telemarketer will likely place you back on the list for future torture.
- 4. Don't hang up mid conversation** - The telemarketer will ring back claiming you got 'disconnected'.
- 5. Don't let them call you back** - When you say "this isn't a good time" the telemarketer hears "call me back later". When you say "I don't have time right now" the telemarketer hears "I'll buy this another day".
- 6. Don't ask them** "can you put me on your do not call list?" as this will prompt the telemarketer to ask why. A polite but firm (calmly repeated as necessary) statement "please put me on your do not call list" is better.
- 7. All telemarketers have supervisors** - Again, don't ask. Use a polite but firm (repeated as necessary) "please let me talk to your supervisor", whom you then instruct to "please put me on your do not call list".

Editor

